

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Application of: Thomas E. Barta, et al.
Serial No: TBA
Filed: December 8, 2003
For: Aromatic Sulfone Hydroxamic Acids and Their Use as Protease Inhibitors
Group Art Unit: TBA
Examiner: TBA
Attorney Ref: 3124/9A/US
HDP Ref: 6794-000017/DVE
Divisional application of U.S. Patent Application Serial No. 09/989,943 (filed November 21, 2001; group art unit 1625, Examiner Celia Chang)

December 8, 2003

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT A

TO THE COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS,
SIR/MADAM:

The above-referenced patent application enclosed herewith is a divisional application of U.S. Patent Application Serial No. 09/989,943 (filed November 21, 2001). Applicants request that this Preliminary Amendment be entered into the above-referenced divisional application.

Amendments to the specification begin on page 2.

Amendments to the claims begin on page 18.

Remarks begin on page 47.

Appendix A (showing a marked-up version of the amendments to specification) begins on page 51.